

Applic. No.: 09/927,555
Amdt. Dated November 24, 2004
Reply to Office action of June 25, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): In combination with a duplicating machine, a device for generating an air stream in the duplicating machine, comprising:

at least one fan unit having at least one of a sequence of ionic fan fans and a matrix configuration of ionic fans, said ionic fan fans being supplied with a voltage for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating the air stream, said ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): The device according to claim 1, wherein said at least one fan unit includes a plurality of ionic fans are disposed substantially adjacent one another along a given space curve.

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Claim 4 (cancelled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): The device according to claim 1, wherein said ~~at least one fan unit includes a plurality of ionic fans~~ are disposed substantially adjacent one another along a straight line.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The device according to claim 1, wherein said ~~at least one fan unit includes a plurality of ionic fans~~ are disposed essentially substantially adjacent one another and spread over a given area.

Claims 7-8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (previously presented): The device according to claim 1, wherein said at least one fan unit is configured to be disposed adjacent a transport path for flat products.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The device according to claim 1, wherein said at least one fan unit is configured to be disposed adjacent a transport path for print carriers.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The device according to claim 1, wherein said at least one fan unit is configured to be disposed adjacent a transport path for flat products selected

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from the group consisting of paper sheets and cardboard sheets.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The device according to claim 1, wherein said at least one fan unit is configured to be disposed adjacent a transport path for a flat product and said at least one fan unit is configured to act upon at least a part of a region surrounding the flat product with a pressure for guiding the flat product, the pressure is selected from the group consisting of an overpressure as compared to an ambient pressure and an underpressure as compared to the ambient pressure.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The device according to claim 1, including:

a powder container for holding powder; and

at least one feed unit connected to said powder container and transporting the powder from said powder container into the air stream of said ~~at least one ionic fan fans~~.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The device according to claim 13, wherein said powder container, said at least one feed unit

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and said ~~at least one ionic fan~~ fans are configured to apply the powder to flat products.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The device according to claim 13, wherein said powder container, said at least one feed unit and said ~~at least one ionic fan~~ fans are configured to apply the powder to print carriers selected from the group consisting of paper sheets and cardboard sheets.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The device according to claim 14, wherein said ~~at least one ionic fan~~ includes a plurality of individually controllable ionic fans are configured to be controlled for a zonal powdering of the flat products.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The device according to claim 16, wherein the flat products define a transport direction and said plurality of individually controllable ionic fans are configured to be controlled in a direction transverse to the transport direction.

Claim 18 (original): The device according to claim 14, wherein said at least one feed unit is a plurality of individually controllable feed units configured to be controlled for a zonal powdering of the flat products.

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Claim 19 (original): The device according to claim 18, wherein the flat products define a transport direction and said plurality of individually controllable feed units are configured to be controlled in a direction transverse to the transport direction.

Claim 20 (original): The device according to claim 14, including at least one further fan unit configured to suck away excess powder from a region surrounding the flat products.

Claim 21 (original): The device according to claim 1, wherein the duplicating machine is a printing machine.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A duplicating machine configuration, comprising:

a duplicating machine including an air stream generator for generating an air stream; and

said air stream generator for generating the air stream including at least one fan unit having ~~at least~~ one of a sequence of ionic fan fans and a matrix configuration of ionic fans, said ionic fan fans being supplied with a voltage for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for

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accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating the air stream, said ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A printing machine configuration, comprising:

a rotary offset printing machine including an air stream generator for generating an air stream; and

said air stream generator for generating the air stream including at least one fan unit having at least one of a sequence of ionic fan fans and a matrix configuration of ionic fans, said ionic fan fans being supplied with a voltage for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating the air stream, said ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A delivery configuration for a duplicating machine, comprising:

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a delivery including an air stream generator for generating an air stream; and

said air stream generator including at least one fan unit having at least one of a sequence of ionic fan fans and a matrix configuration of ionic fans, said ionic fan fans being supplied with a voltage for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating the air stream, said ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field.

Claim 25 (currently amended): In combination with a duplicating machine, a cylinder configuration, comprising:

a cylinder disposed in the duplicating machine, said cylinder having an interior region;

an air stream generator for generating an air stream disposed in said interior region of said cylinder; and

said air stream generator including at least one fan unit having at least one of a sequence of ionic fan fans and a

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matrix configuration of ionic fans, said ionic fan fans being supplied with a voltage for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating the air stream, said ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field.

Claim 26 (original): The cylinder configuration according to claim 25, wherein the duplicating machine is a rotary offset printing machine.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A method for guiding flat products in a duplicating machine, the method which comprises:

generating a flow field of air streams with at least one a plurality of controllable ionic fans of a fan unit having one of a sequence of ionic fans and a matrix configuration of ionic fans, the ionic fans being supplied with a voltage, each ionic fan for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating an air stream, the ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field; and

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guiding flat products, at least in given sections of a duplicating machine, with the flow field of air streams.

Claim 28 (original): The method according to claim 27, which comprises guiding print carriers as the flat products.

Claim 29 (original): The method according to claim 27, which comprises providing individually controllable ionic fans as the controllable ionic fans.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A method of depositing flat products in a duplicating machine, the method which comprises:

generating a flow field of air streams with at least one a plurality of controllable ionic fans of a fan unit having one of a sequence of ionic fans and a matrix configuration of ionic fans, the ionic fans being supplied with a voltage, each ionic fan for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating the an air stream, the ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field; and

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at least supporting a depositing of flat products with the flow field of air streams in a duplicating machine.

Claim 31 (original): The method according to claim 30, which comprises providing print carriers as the flat products.

Claim 32 (original): The method according to claim 30, which comprises providing individually controllable ionic fans as the controllable ionic fans.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): A method of powdering print carriers in a duplicating machine, the method which comprises:

generating a flow field of air streams with at least one a plurality of controllable ionic fans of a fan unit having one of a sequence of ionic fans and a matrix configuration of ionic fans, the ionic fans being supplied with a voltage for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating an air stream, the ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field; and

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feeding powder to print carriers in a duplicating machine by using the flow field of air streams for performing a zonal powdering of the print carriers.

Claim 34 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 33, which comprises providing individually controllable ionic fans as the controllable ionic fans.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A method of transporting print carriers in a duplicating machine, the method which comprises:

generating blast air with at least one ionic fan for generating the air stream, said ionic fan unit having one of a sequence of ionic fans and a matrix configuration of ionic fans, the ionic fans being supplied with a voltage for generating and accelerating gas ions by a discharge for accelerating non-ionized gas by pulse transmission and generating the an air stream, the ionic fans being one of individually controlled and individually regulated by the voltage in order to generate one of a desired flow profile and a desired flow field; and

using the blast air for one of transporting and assisting a transport of print carriers at least in one section of a duplicating machine.